

Newport

ESTABLISHED JUNE 12, 1788.



Mercury.

Volume XCI.

Poetry.

RESIGNATION.

BY H. W. LONGFELLOW.

There is no flock, however watched and tended,
But one dead lamb is there;
There is no fire-side however defended,
But one is vacant chair.

The air is full of farewells to the dying,
And mournings for the dead;
The heart of Rachel for her children dying
Will not be comforted!

Let us be patient; these severe afflictions
Not from the ground arise,
But oftentimes celestial benedictions
Assume this dark disguise.

We see but dimly through the mists and vapors;
And these earthly charms,
What seem to us but dim funeral tapers,
May be heaven's distant lamps.

There is no Death! what seems so is transition;
This life of mortal breath
Is but a suburb of the life Elysian,
Whose portals we call Death.

She is not dead—the child of our affection—
But goes into that school,
Where she no longer needs our poor protection,
And Christ himself doth rule.

In that great cloisters stillness and seclusion
By guardian angels led—
Safe from temptation—safe from sins pollution,
She lives whom we call dead.

Day after day we think what she is doing
In those bright realms of air,
Year after year her tender steps pursuing,
Behold her grown more fair.

Thus do we walk with her and keep unbroken
The bond which nature gives,
Thinking that our remembrance the' unspoken,
May reach her where she lives.

Not as a child shall we again behold her;
For when with rapture wild,
In our embrace we again enfold her,
She will not be a child.

But a fair maiden in her Father's mansion,
Clothed with celestial grace;
And beautiful with all the soul's expansion
Shall we behold her face.

And though at times impetuous with emotion,
And anguish long suppressed,
The swelling heart beats moaning like the ocean,
That cannot be at rest.

We will be patient; and assuage the feeling
We cannot wholly stay;
By silence sanctifying, not concealing
The grief that must have way.

AGRICULTURE.

FACTS ABOUT MILK.—Cream cannot rise through a great depth of milk. If, therefore, milk is desired to retain its cream for a time, it should be put into a deep, narrow dish; and if it is desired to free it most completely of cream, it should be poured into a broad, flat dish, not much exceeding one inch in depth. The evolution of cream is facilitated by a rise, and retarded by a depression of temperature. At the usual temperature of the dairy, 50 degrees Fahrenheit, all the cream will probably rise in thirty-six hours; but at 70 degrees, it will perhaps all rise in half that time; and when the milk is kept near the freezing point, the cream will rise very slowly, because it becomes solidified. In wet and cold weather, the milk is less rich than in dry and warm; and on this account more cheese is obtained in cold than in warm though not thundery weather. The season has its effects. The milk, in spring, is supposed to be best for drinking, and hence it would be best for calves; in summer it is best suited for cheese; and in autumn—the butter keeping better than that of the summer—cows less frequently milked than others give richer milk, and consequently more butter.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.—It is an error to plant seeds from a State further South. In a cold season only the seed from a colder climate will ripen well.

Never keep your cattle short; few farmers can afford it. If you starve them they will starve you.

It will not do to hoe a great field for a little crop, or to mow twenty acres for five loads of hay. Enrich the land, and it will pay you for it. Better farm thirty acres well, than fifty acres by halves.

The foot of the owner is the best manure for land.

Cultivate that you wish to destroy in the summer, and with a sharp instrument—they will bleed freely and die.

Accounts should be kept, detailing the expenses and products of each field.

When an implement is no longer wanted for the season, lay it carefully aside, but first let it be well cleaned.

Obtain good seed, prepare your ground well, sow early, and pay very little attention to the moon.

KILLING HOGS.—We believe it to be a fact that pork sometimes shrinks much more on boiling than at others. It may not be easy to tell the reason. Something may depend on the kind of food with which it is fattened—but we have not any reason to suppose that the state of the moon or of the weather at the time of killing has any effect.

But there is an immense difference in breeds of hogs. There is also a great difference in ox beef. A yellow ox with long coarse hair always makes tender beef—while the short-haired and brown ox will make tough beef.

The Berkshire breed of hogs is noted for making tough and strong pork, while the Suffolk and the Middlesex and the Mackay are known to make pork remarkable tender and sweet.—*Ed. Ploughman.*

SELECTED TALES.

A Legend of the Weeping Chamber.

A STRANGE story was once told me by a Levantine lady of my acquaintance, which I shall endeavor to relate—as far as I am able with the necessary abridgments—in her own words. The circumstances under which she told it were peculiar. The family had just been disturbed by the visit of a ghost—a real ghost, visible, if not palpable. She was not what may be called superstitious; and though following with more or less assiduity the practices of her religion, was afflicted now and then with a fit of perfect materialism. I was surprised, therefore, to hear her relate, with every appearance of truth, the following incidents:

There is an old house in Beyrouth, which for many successive years, was inhabited by a Christian family. It is of great extent, and was of yore fitted for the dwelling of a prince. The family had, indeed, in early times, been very rich; and almost fabulous accounts are current of the wealth of its founder, Fadillah Dahan. He was a merchant; the owner of ships, the fitter-out of caravans. The regions of the East and of the West had been visited by him; and, after undergoing as many dangers and adventures as Sinbad, he had returned to spend the latter days of life in his native city. He built, accordingly, a magnificent dwelling, the courts of which he adorned with marble fountains, and the chambers with silk divans; and he was envied on account of his prosperity.

Now Halil grew up to the age of twelve—still a charming lad; but the parents, always fully occupied by the last arrival, had not carried out their project of education. He was as wild and untamed as a colt, and spent more of his time in the street than in the company of his mother who, by degrees, began to look upon him with a kind of calm friendship due to strangers. Fadillah as he took his accustomed walk with his merchant friends used from time to time to encounter a ragged boy fighting in the streets with the sons of the Jew butcher; but his eyes beginning to grow dim, he often passed without recognizing him. One day, however, Halil breathless and bleeding, ran up and took refuge beneath the skirt of his mantle from a crowd of savage urchins. Fadillah was amazed, and said, "O, my son for I think thou art my son—what evil hath befallen thee, and wherefore do I see thee in this state?" The boy, whose voice was choked by sobs, looked in his face, and said, "Father, I am the son of the richest merchant of Beyrouth, and behold, there is no one so little cared for."

Fadillah's conscience smote him, and he wiped the boy's bleeding face with the corner of his silk caftan, and blessed him; and, taking him by the hand, led him away. The merchants smiled benignly one to the other, and, pointing with their thumbs, said, "We have seen the model youth!" While they laughed and sneered Fadillah, humbled, yet resolved, returned to his house, leading the ragged Halil, and entered his wife's chamber. Selima was playing with her seventh child, and teaching it to lisp the word "Baba"—about the amount of education which she had found time to bestow on each of her offspring. When she saw the plight of her eldest son, she frowned, and was about to scold him; but Fadillah interposed, and said, "Wife, speak no harsh words. We have not done our duty by this boy. May God forgive us; but we have looked on those children that have bloom from thee, more as playthings than as deposits for which we are responsible. Halil has become a wild out-of-door lad, doubtless with some reason of our love. It is too late to bring him back to the destiny we had dreamt of; but he must not be left to grow up thus uncared for. I have a brother established in Bassora; to him will I send the lad to learn the art of commerce, and to exercise himself in adventure, as his father did before him. Bestow thy blessing upon him, Selima, (here the good old man's voice trembled), and may God in his mercy forgive both thee and me for the neglect which has made this parting necessary. I shall know that I am forgiven if, before I go down into the tomb, my son return a wise and a sober man; not unmindful that we gave him life, and forgetting that, until now, we have given him little else."

Then the woman replied, "O, my lord, every pig's tail curls not in the same direction, nor does every maiden admire the passing quality of youth. If thou wilt, I will bestow on the wife, who will love thee as thou lovest thyself, and serve thee as the angels serve Allah. She is more beautiful than any of the daughters of Beyrouth, and her name is Selima, a name of good augury."

The friends of Fadillah laughed, as did the young men who followed in their wake, and urged him to go and see this peerless beauty, if it were only for a joke. Accordingly, he told the woman to lead the way. But she said he must mount his mule, for they had to go some distance into the country. He mounted and, with a single servant, went forth from the gates—the woman preceding—and rode until he reached a village in the mountains. Here, in a poor little house, he found Selima; clothed in the very commonest style, engaged in making divan cushions. She was a marvelously beautiful girl, and the heart of the merchant at once began to yearn toward her; yet he endeavored to restrain himself, and said, "This beautiful thing is not for me." But the woman cried out, "Selima, wilt thou consent to love this old man?" The girl gazed in his face a while, and then, folding her hands across her bosom, said, "Yes; for there is goodness in his countenance." Fadillah wept with joy; and, returning to the city, announced his approaching marriage to his friends. According to custom, they expressed civil surprise to his face; but, when his back was turned, they whispered that he was an

old fool, and had been the dupe of a she-adventurer.

The marriage took place with ceremonies of royal magnificence; and Selima, who passed unmoved from extreme poverty to abundant riches, seemed to merit the position of the greatest lady in Beyrouth. Never was woman more prudent than she. No one ever knew her previous history, nor that of her mother. Some said that the life of misery, perhaps of shame, was before them, when this unexpected marriage took place. Selima's gratitude to Fadillah was unbounded; and out of gratitude grew love. The merchant daily offered up thanks for the bright diamond which had come to him in his house.

Halil started on his journey, and having passed through the Valley of Robbers, the Valley of Lions, and the Valley of Devils—this is the way in which Orientals localize the supposed dangers of travelling—arrived at the good city of Bassora; where his uncle received him well, and promised to send him as supercargo on board the first vessel he dispatched to the Indian seas. What time was spent by the caravan upon the road, the narrative does not state. Travelling is slow work in the East; but almost immediately on his arrival in Bassora, Halil was engaged in a love adventure. If traveling is slow, the approaches of manhood are rapid. The youth's curiosity was excited by the extraordinary care taken to conceal his cousin Miriam from his sight; and having introduced himself in her garden, beheld, and, struck by her wonderful beauty, loved her. With an Oriental fondness, he confessed the truth to his uncle, who listened with anger and dismay, and told him that Miriam was betrothed to the Sultan. Halil perceived the danger of indulging his passion, and promised to suppress it; but while he played a prudent part, Miriam's curiosity was also excited, and she, too, beheld and loved her cousin. Bolts and bars cannot keep two such affections asunder. They met and plighted their troth, and were married secretly, and were happy. But inevitable discovery came—Miriam was thrown into a dungeon; and the unhappy Halil, loaded with chains, was put on board a vessel not as supercargo, but as prisoner; with orders that he should be sold as a slave.

When her strength returned, she had set out as a beggar to travel over the world in search of her lost husband. Marvelous were the adventures she underwent, God protecting her throughout, until she came to the land of Persia, where she found Halil working as a slave in the garden of the Governor of Fars. After a few stolen interviews, she had again resumed her wanderings to seek for Fadillah, that he might redeem his son with wealth; but had passed several years upon the road.

Fortune, however, now smiled upon this unhappy family, and in spite of his age, Fadillah set out for Fars. Heaven made the desert easy, and the road short for him. On a fine calm evening he entered the garden of the governor, and found his son gaily singing as he trimmed an orange tree. After a vain attempt to preserve an incognito, the good old man lifted up his hands, and shouting, "Halil, my first-born!" fell upon the breast of the astonished slave. Sweet was the interview in the orange, sweet the murmured conversation between the strong young man and the trembling patriarch, until the perfumed dew of evening fell upon their heads. Halil's liberty was easily obtained, and father and son returned in safety to Beyrouth. Then the Weeping Chamber was closed, and the door walled up; and Fadillah and Selima lived happily until age gently did its work at their appointed times; and Halil and Miriam inherited the house and the wealth that had been gathered for them.

The supernatural part of the story remains to be told. The Weeping Chamber was never again opened; but every time that a death was about to occur in the family, a shower of heavy tear-drops were heard to fall upon its marble floor, and low wailings came through the walled doorway. Years, centuries, passed away, and the mystery repealed itself with unwavering uniformity. The family fell into poverty, and only occupied a portion of the house, but invariably before one of its members sickened unto death, a shower of heavy drops, as from a thunder cloud, pattered on the pavement of the Weeping Chamber, and was heard distinctly at night through the whole house. At length the family quitted the country in search of better fortunes elsewhere, and the house remained for a long time uninhabited.

Meanwhile a dreadful pestilence fell upon Beyrouth, and among the first sufferers was an eight-year-old one, that had just learned to say "Baba." Selima was also too astonished to be grieved. It seemed to her impossible that death should come into her house, and meddle with the fruits of so much suffering and love.—When they came to take away the little form which she had so often fondled, her indignation burst forth, and she smote the first old woman who stretched out her rough-and-ready hand. But a shriek from her waiting-woman announced that another victim was singled out; and the frantic mother rushed like a tigress to defend the young that yet remained to her.—But the enemy was invisible; and (so the story goes) all her little ones dropped one by one and died; so that on the seventh day Selima sat in her nursery gazing about with stony eyes, and counting her losses upon her fingers—Ishender, Selima, Wardy, Fadillah, Henna, Hennanah, Gereges—seven in all. Then she remembered Halil, and her neglect of him; and, lifting up her voice, she wept aloud; and, as the tears rushed fast and hot down her cheeks, her heart yearned for her absent boy, and she would have parted with worlds to have fallen upon his breast—would have given up her life in return for one word of pardon and of love.

Fadillah came in to her; and he was now very old and feeble. His back was bent, and his transparent hand trembled as it clutched a cane. A white beard surrounded a still whiter face; and as he came near his wife he held out his hand toward her with an uncertain gesture, as if the room had been dark. This world appeared to him but dimly. "Selima," said he, "the Giver hath taken. We, too, must go in our turn. Weep, nay love; but weep with admiration, for those little ones that have gone to sing in the golden cages of Paradise. There is a heavier sorrow in my heart. Since my first-born, Halil departed for Bassora, I have only written once to learn intelligence of him.—He was then well, and had been received with favor by his uncle. We have never done our duty by that boy." His wife replied, "Do not reproach me; for I reproach myself more bitterly than thou canst do. Write, then, to thy brother to obtain tidings of the beloved one. I will make of this chamber a weeping chamber. It has resounded with merriment enough.—All my children learned to laugh and talk here. I will hang it with black, and erect a tomb in the midst; and every day I will come and spend two hours, and weep for those who are gone and for him who is absent." Fadillah approved her design; and they made a weeping chamber, and lamented therein. But their letters to Bassora remained unanswered; and they began to believe that fate had chosen a solitary tomb for Halil.

Selima laid her seventh child in its cradle of carved wood, and drew Halil to her bosom, and Fadillah knew that she loved him still, because she kissed his face, regardless of the blood and dirt that stained it. She then washed him and gave him a purse of gold, and handed him over to his father; who had resolved to send him off by the caravan that started that very afternoon. Halil, surprised and made happy by unwonted caresses, was yet delighted at the idea of beginning an adventurous life; and went away, manfully staving his sobs, and endeavoring to assume the grave deportment of a merchant. Selima shed a few tears, and then attracted by a crow and a chuckle from the cradle, began to tickle the infant's soft double chin; and went on with her interrupted lesson—"Baba, Baba."

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CONGRESSIONAL.

WASHINGTON Friday, Feb. 13.

SENATE.—The private calendar was then taken up. And several bills, considered. No vote was taken; the Senate adjourned till Monday.

House.—Mr. Venable, from the committee on the judiciary, said a memorial of Wm. Alexander had been received by them, preferring charges against the Hon. J. D. Watrous, Judge for the District of Texas. On examination, the committee are satisfied that the matter should be further investigated, and he therefore asked for the adoption of a resolution authorizing them to send for persons and papers, and power to examine witnesses under oath. After some debate the resolution to send for persons and papers was adopted.

The House then went into committee on private bills. Two bills were considered and laid aside to be reported to the House, but were not acted on, and then the House adjourned to Monday.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Feb. 16.

SENATE.—The bill relinquishing to the city of Burlington the land lying between that city and Mississippi river was taken up and passed.

A bill granting land to Iowa in aid of the construction of certain railroads therein, was taken up. Mr. Bell resumed his remarks commenced on Thursday last, and spoke till near 4 o'clock, when the Senate adjourned.

House.—Mr. Orr introduced a resolution which was adopted requesting the President to inform the House whether the accounts of Prosper M. Wetmore, late navy agent, have been adjusted, if not whether steps have been taken for that purpose, and calling for other information relating to the alleged defalcation.

Mr. Clarke presented a petition of 100 citizens of Rhode Island, in favor of Boynton and Sears now confined in prison at Washington, convicted of aiding slaves to escape, asking Congress to interfere and effect their release. Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Hendricks, from the committee on mileage of the delegate from Oregon— The bill proposes to repeal the provision which allows him \$2500 for mileage. Pending a motion to recommit the bill to the committee on mileage, the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Feb. 17.

SENATE.—The chair presented two letters from Kossuth, thanking the Senate for the reception given him by Congress.— Mr. Badger moved that that the documents be laid on the table. Carried.

Mr. Underwood presented a petition in favor of the recognition of the republic of Liberia; also to establish a line of steamers to that port.

The bill granting land to Iowa for certain railroads being next in order, the discussion was resumed, after which the further consideration of the subject was postponed. And after a short executive session the Senate adjourned.

House.—The House immediately resumed consideration of the mileage bill, which was pending on the adjournment yesterday.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Toombs, Hibbard, McMullen and Washburn, in opposition to the bill, and Messrs. Stewart, Parker of Indiana, and Stanton of Tennessee, in favor. Pending the discussion the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 18.

SENATE.—The chair presented a communication from the President, through the Secretary of State, relative to the convention with Brazil and this government.

Mr. Fish presented a memorial from Henry Grinnell, tendering to the government his two vessels—the Advance and the Rescue—recently returned from the Arctic Ocean, to be fitted out and sent with others, including a steam propeller, in the Spring, in search of Sir John Franklin. Referred to the Naval Committee.

The Senate ordered Kossuth's letter to be printed, by yeas 21, to nays 20.

The Senate then resumed the reconsideration of the Iowa land bill.

Mr. Underwood spoke in support of his amendment replying to Sumner and others, and without concluding, the Senate adjourned.

House.—Mr. Jones called for the regular order of the day, being the bill to regulate the mileage of the members from Oregon. The bill was then taken up and Mr. Hendricks took the floor in a speech in its favor.

The vote ordering the engrossment, was then reconsidered, and the bill read a third time and passed.

The House then took up the bill granting to Wisconsin right of way and lands for Railroads. Mr. Porter obtained the floor, when on motion the House adj.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 19.

SENATE.—The House bill to regulate the mileage of the delegates from Oregon, was read twice, and debated.

The Iowa Railroad bill was then taken up and Mr. Underwood concluded his speech. The subject was then postponed.

Mr. Hunter reported a joint resolution providing for the extension of the time of the commissions under the treaty with Brazil, to nine months from the first of March next. Objections being raised, the resolution was laid over. Adjourned.

The House on motion, resumed the consideration of the bill granting to Missouri certain land for Railroads.

Mr. Rantoul argued for an hour in support of the bill, which he said was not confined to mere local or sectional interest.— The disposition of the public domain was of great national importance, and should be managed in such a way as to build up the public interest. Railroads, he said, between the East and the West and the Northeast open an immense avenue of trade, and lead to an interchange of agriculture for manufactured products, which would prove beneficial to both.

Mr. Ficklin followed. He spoke in favor of donating the lands for the public interest, and thought it was the policy of the government to place upon every quarter and section of land a tenant who would cultivate it.

Mr. Orr obtained the floor. Adjourned.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

PROVIDENCE, Friday, Feb. 13.

SENATE.—Read and Passed.—Petition of Samuel Clarke, guardian, for leave to sell real estate; Resolution relative to defraying the expenses of the anticipated reception of Louis Kossuth, during the vacation of the General Assembly; Resolution relative to the publication of the report of the School Commission, Concurrences; Petition of J. C. Peckham, to have license extended; Resolution to improve the grounds and to lay a flag walk around the State House in Newport; Proposition of H. F. Walling, to construct a map of the State; Petition of Joseph Ralph, a prisoner for debt in jail, for liberation; An act in relation to the keeper of the Providence county jail; An act to incorporate the Quindie Baptist Society; Petition of the Pawtuxet Street Christian Society, for change of name. The Senate concurred in the vote of the House on the resolution of adjournment, with the amendment, extending the time to Friday, Feb. 20; The Senate then adj.

House.—Mr. Barstow, from the committee to the judiciary, said a memorial of Wm. Alexander had been received by them, preferring charges against the Hon. J. D. Watrous, Judge for the District of Texas. On examination, the committee are satisfied that the matter should be further investigated, and he therefore asked for the adoption of a resolution authorizing them to send for persons and papers, and power to examine witnesses under oath. After some debate the resolution to send for persons and papers was adopted.

The House then went into committee on private bills. Two bills were considered and laid aside to be reported to the House, but were not acted on, and then the House adjourned to Monday.

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A bill granting land to Iowa in aid of the construction of certain railroads therein, was taken up. Mr. Bell resumed his remarks commenced on Thursday last, and spoke till near 4 o'clock, when the Senate adjourned.

House.—Mr. Barstow, from the committee to whom was referred the bill from the Senate, made a report recommending to concur with certain verbal amendments and by leaving off those sections referring the bill to the people. The consideration of the bill was referred to Tuesday.

Read and concurred.—Petition of Samuel Clark, to sell real estate; An act to prevent shooting on the Island of Patience, Prudence and Hope; Report of committee on militia; Senate's amendment to the resolution of adjournment.

The Judiciary Committee reported an act in relation to acts heretofore passed by the General Assembly. Passed in concurrence.

An act in amendment of an act in relation to the election of civil officers. Concurred.

An act amending the charter of the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad Company.—passed in concurrence.

An act explanatory of an act to revise and amend the several acts for the election of civil officers.—passed.

The petition of Sarah B. T. Wheeler, for change of name, was granted.

A resolution making additional appropriations for the improvement of North and South Court streets, in the city of Providence, was passed in concurrence.

The Senate then adjourned.

PROVIDENCE, Saturday, Jan. 14.

SENATE.—Several petitions were received and referred to appropriate committees. The Senate then took up the order of the day—the act in addition to an act for the preservation of oysters and other shell fish within the waters of this State—which, after much debate, was passed with many amendments to the bill as reported by the committee.

The Senate adjourned to Monday.

PROVIDENCE, Monday, Feb. 16.

SENATE.—Read and passed.—An act in amendment of an act to establish the limits of the several jail yards. The Senate then adjourned.

House.—There was no business on the table and the House adj.

PROVIDENCE, Tuesday, Feb. 17.

SENATE.—Concurrences.—Petition of certain pew holders of First Universalist Society in Providence, for leave to increase tax on their pews; petition of the First Baptist Society in Olneyville for amendment of charter; Petition of Margaret Barrett, for the liberation of Ellen Cummings. The House adjourned till Monday.

PROVIDENCE, Saturday, Jan. 14.

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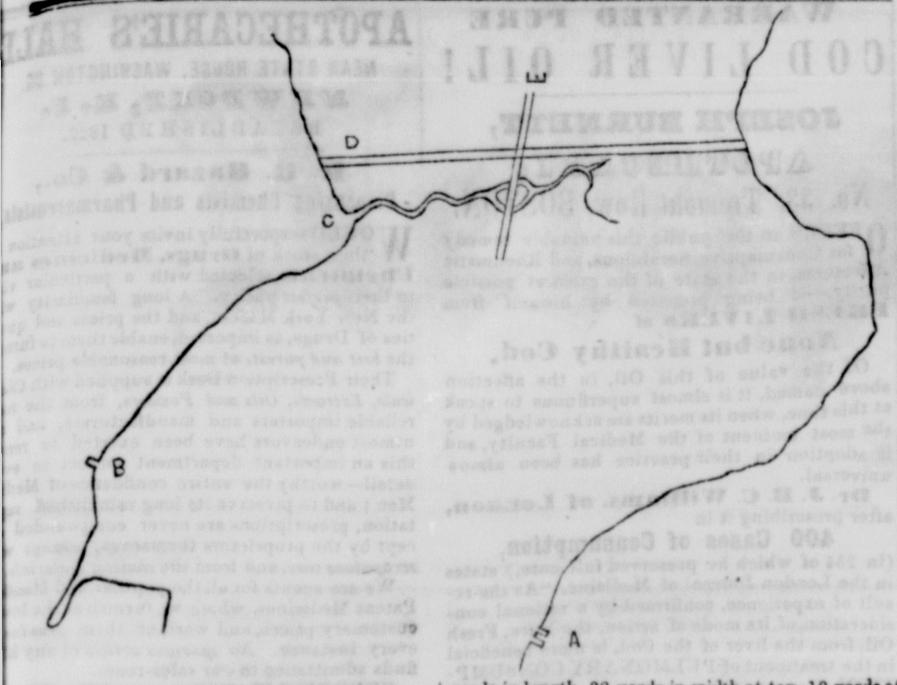
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The Proposed Canal at Jamestown.

For some time past quite a discussion has been on in Newport, Jamestown and a portion of Providence, in relation to the proposed canal across Island of Conant. The object of the canal to connect the east and west passage of the Bay, and thereby facilitate communication, and in a certain, cheap and expeditious transit for produce, stock, &c.

Up to the present time we have made no mention of the proposed plan, from the fact that we have not at our command the material to throw light on the subject. We have, however, initiated the plan inquiry, and as soon as we have in hand the facts we are now looking for, the matter will be placed before our readers, many of whom are deeply interested in the enterprise.

The question of a direct communication with Providence, and the feasibility of a canal were discussed in 1828, at the time the company was formed for running the "Horse boats" between the islands. The ground was examined by Col. Tosten, the cost of the work estimated at fifty thousand dollars, which is probably near the mark.

The above cut conveys a general idea of the Island at the point intersected by the canal. It will

be seen that it is proposed to cut through the swamp

to the north of the Ferry, and a little above the creek

running in from Dutch Island Harbor. A and B des-

ign the east and west Ferries; C the creek; E the

edge; D the canal, which will be sixteen hundred

yards in length, 22 yards in width at top, 10 yards at bottom, and with 12 feet of water.

The ground has recently been carefully examined by a skillful engineer, who, after giving the subject the attention it merits, is of an opinion that the excavation will cost \$25,000; Breakwaters \$6,000; Bridge and arrangement for passengers \$6,000; total \$37,000, or in round numbers \$40,000.

There is one item in this estimate which we think can be greatly reduced. It is calculated that the bridge must be twenty feet in height, to admit of the passage of the boat without endangering her smoke pipe.

By adopting the plan pursued in France, or having the pipe made with a joint or hinge near the deck and rigged so as to be easily dropped when passing the bridge—an easy matter, and performed by one man—the bridge need be only of a height to admit of the boats passing under at high water.

This saving, however, and perhaps an additional sum over and above the estimate, may be expended on the excavation, as it is impossible to foresee what obstacles may present themselves when the ground is once broken. But if \$50,000 will complete the work, the advantages to be derived will warrant the undertaking.

If the plan for a canal is not carried out, it is proposed to build two piers, one on each side of the Island, to be connected by a plank road, with boats running in each passage, and cars to run on a track over the road, to keep up the connection. But the canal question must first be settled before any other measure is brought forward.

OUR TABLE.

Graham's Magazine.—The March number has come to hand. Its pages are filled with well written tales, in every vein, and style, suited to old and young, gay and grave. Graham asks for Criticism—here he has it. The cuts of "O Shave my Criticism," "Stars of a Summer's Night," and "Ignis Fatuus," are worth ten times as much as the "Indian Courting," though the latter probably cost ten times as much as all the others together.

Mrs. Whidbey's Magazine.—The January number of this magazine for Mothers & Daughters with a fine engraving of the Editor, has just come to hand. We have often spoken of this work, and desire to see it circulated. The sketch of "Fault Finding" is drawn to the life and while reading it we could easily see several cases in which like results followed.

The author has paid much attention to the subject—humorous rehearsals from Dickens were enjoyed all, and especially by those who are fond of a hearty, cheerful laugh.

The first lecture before the Lyceum was delivered by Rev. Mr. Stewart, of Newport. It was replete with interest and useful information; and it manifested a laudable and praiseworthy zeal on the part of the Lecturer, in his efforts to benefit society disseminating useful knowledge among the masses, in a popular and attractive manner. The lecture afforded a high degree of pleasure to all who heard it; and the more so on account of the subject being so well adapted to the utilitarian spirit of the present

age. The Committee have made arrangement for lectures on Tuesday and Friday evenings of each week, in the middle of next month, *stormy evenings excepted*. The public are respectfully invited to attend, and they may rest assured that no efforts will be spared to accommodate them. A good shelter is provided for them.

Lectures commence at 7 o'clock P. M.

The Free Masons, and their family, was delivered by the Rev. K. L. STEWART, at Union Hall, on Tuesday evening. The "Crusader" is the subject which the Speaker selected as being particularly appropriate to his audience, and we are glad that all present will agree in pronouncing that effort of the Lecturer to be the finest of his numerous discourses delivered this winter.

As depicted in a graphic manner, the many remarkable results arising from the Crusades, and the organization of charitable foundations which were pledged to defend the poor, friends, was worthy of not only the warmest commendation, but also of imitation. He asserted that the institution of the Knights of the Temple, and of Malta might be considered the greatest which characterised the Crusades; that their virtue, and valor, and chivalry were written on every enterprise of the age in which they lived; that piety was included in their order, and that piety contributed toward its maintenance; and that the Templar is the friend of civil and religious liberty, and that he is fair in his profession when he is exemplified in his life, Justice, Mercy, Fortitude, and Clemency, and all those other virtues and acts, which should adorn a Christian Knight.

The Lecture will be delivered at the Union Meeting House, Portsmouth, on Monday evening next, by W. D. LACE, Esq., in the port. Should the weather prove unpleasant, the lecture will be delivered on Tuesday evening.

Feb. 21.

New Bedford Oil Market.

Sperm.—There is a fair demand, without material change in prices, and we note sales in this market of 185 bbls, as landed, at 71 24; 240 bbls oil body, at 150 bbls, and 160 bbls head master at \$1 30, cash. In Boston we hear of sales of about 400 bbls from cargo of Savannah, at \$1 23. Holders are asking \$1 76, New York, Tribune Building; Philadelphia, north-west corner of Third and Chestnut sts.

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Feb. 21.

New York Grain Market.

The market for Wheat continues very firm, and as the supply is still light, and the demand for export and milling good, prices are well supported; though operations are restricted by the high rates demanded for freight to England—the sales are White Southern, and to a small extent Northern, wheat.

Rye is at \$1 10; prime White Genesee, \$1 29; and Red Long Island, \$1 10. Rye is wanted, but its scarcity precludes operations to any considerable extent, Jersey is at 75 cents; Northern, in lots, 75; New York, 50 cents; and is offered sparingly, there being nothing else.

Corn is at 55 cents; Northern, in lots, 50; New York, 45 cents; and is offered sparingly, there being nothing else.

Wheat—Sales of 21,000 lbs Polar have been

made here at 45 1/2 cents per lb.

Brighton Market. Thursday last.

At Market 575 Beef Cattle, no Stoves, 8 pairs Working Oxen, 39 Cows and Calves, 550 Sheep and Lambs, and 200 Swine.

Prices—Beef Cattle—Extr \$6 50; first quality \$6 50; second \$5 50; third \$4 50; fourth \$4 50.

Working Oxen—\$85, 90 a 100.

Cows and Calves—21, 24, 27, 30 a 31.

Sheep—5 a Lamb. Retail at \$5 a 6 1/2 cts.

Swine—5 a Lamb. Retail at \$5 a 2 1/2 cts.

Tuesday OLIVER READ, Esq., had a severe fall in Mary Street, which has confined him to bed.

Our next we shall publish the Constitution, Annual Report, Treasurer's Report, &c., of the Newport Merchant Society.

Reported for the Mercury.

COURT OF JUSTICES.

On Tuesday the 17th the complainant in behalf of the State vs. George Easton, was again continued on motion of the Defendant. Your readers will recollect that this case relates to an accusation at least for keeping a gaming room.

Another complaint standing for trial from the last Court day, was that against Thomas C. Allen. He was again arraigned and pleaded "not guilty."—After the examination of several witnesses in relation to his conduct in the watch-house, the Court found him guilty of the charge against him; and it is supposed in consequence of the imprisonment which he had already undergone since his arrest, sentenced him to only five days further confinement in the county jail. C. G. Ferry for the State, and William Gilpin for the Defendant.

The complaint against Robert Carish and William Carish, was again continued to next court day. The other complaint against Andrew Dexter for the same kind of offence, to wit: mischievous and lewd malicious and of a most dangerous nature, was also again continued.

WEEKLY ALMANAC.

FEBRUARY.	SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.	SUN.		
1852.	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	sets	
21	SATURDAY,	6 38 5 22 7	7 15 8 52																					
22	SUNDAY,	6 37 5 29 3	14 9 24																					
23	MONDAY,	6 36 5 24 9	13 9 57																					
24	TUESDAY,	6 34 5 26 10	12 10 53																					
25	WEDNESDAY,	6 33 5 27 11	11 11 50																					
26	THURSDAY,	6 31 5 29 11	11 56																					
27	FRIDAY,	6 30 5 30 9	11 12 23																					

Moon's first qr. 28th d 0 47 m morning.

MARRIED.

In Providence, 12th inst., by the Rev. T. C. James, Mr. OLIVER H. P. SUMNER to Miss SARAH A. SPOONER, both of this town.

In Providence, 16th inst., Mr. HENRY CHILDS to Miss JULIA A. WHITE; Mr. STEPHEN W. SNOW to Miss HARRIET R. FISHER, all of P.; 17th, Mr. ZEPHARIN INGALLS, of New York, to Miss ANNIE B. BOURN, of P. In Manchester, N. H., 16th inst., by the Rev. L. Sawyer, Mr. Samuel D. Slocum, of Providence and Miss Elizabeth M. Farrier, of Manchester.

DIED.

In this town, 16th inst., Mrs. LAURA A., wife of Capt. David Walker, of New London, aged 29 years.

In this town, 17th inst., Maria A., daughter of Mr. Edward J. Carr, aged 22 months.

In Wakefield, R. I., on the 19th inst., HENRY TILLEY, son of Dea. James Tilley, of East Greenwich, aged 21 years.

In Bristol, 10th inst., Mrs. ABY SUMNER, aged 54 years.

In Tiverton, 18th inst., Mr. DUDLEY PALMER, in the 81st year of his age.

In Providence, 19th inst., Mr. MARTIN ROBINSON, aged 55 years; 16th, John R., son of Mr. John B. Wood, of Providence.

In Johnston, 14th inst., Mr. WILLIAM B. ALVERSON in the 32d year of his age.

In Smithfield, 16th inst., Miss Mary Mowry, daughter of the late Col. Elizur Mowry, in the 74th year of her age.

On board steamer Chenoweth, Jan. 15th, WILLIAM HENRY, eldest son of Samuel A. Pearce, of Providence, aged 24 years.

In Cincinnati, Ohio, 16th inst., Mrs. FRANCES R. HILL, wife of George H. Hill, and youngest daughter of the late Thomas Rhodes, of Providence, in the 36th year of her age.

In Dartmouth, 19th inst., Phineas Taire, wife of Othniel, a worthy member and Elder in the Society of Friends, in the 79th year of her age.

NEWSPAPERS.

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PREPARED AND SOLD BY JAMES C. AYER, PRACTICAL AND ANALYTICAL CHEMIST, LOWELL, MASS.

Sold in Newport by R. R. HAZARD & CO., R. J. TAYLOR, and by Druggists everywhere.

Feb. 14, 1852, 5m.

YAYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL

For the Cure of COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS,

BRONCHITIS, WHOOPING-COUGH,

CROUP, ASTHMA, AND CONSUMPTION.

Many years of trial, instead of this medicine, has won for it an appreciation and notoriety by far exceeding the most sanguine expectation of its friends.

Nothing but its intrinsic virtues and the unmistakable benefit conferred on thousands of sufferers, could originate and maintain the reputation it enjoys.

While many inferior remedies thrust into the market, have failed, and have been discarded, this has gained friends by every trial, conferred benefits on the afflicted they can never forget, and produced cures too numerous and too remarkable to be forgotten.

Whilst it is a fraud on the public to pretend that any one medicine will infallibly cure—still there is abundant proof that the CHERRY PECTORAL does not only as a general thing, but almost invariably cure the maladies for which it is employed.

As time makes these facts wider and better known, this medicine has gradually become the best reliance of the afflicted, from the log-cabin of the American peasant, to the palaces of European Royalty. Throughout this country, in every State, city, and indeed almost every hamlet it

BLISS' JENNY LIND



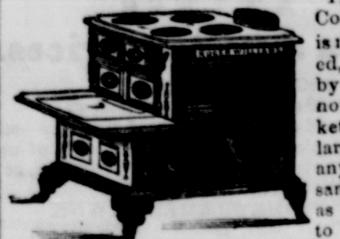
HOT AIR COOKING RANGE.

THIS RANGE, manufactured and offered to the public at wholesale and retail by the subscriber, is counted the most desirable ever brought into this or any other market; possessing as it does, qualities heretofore unobtained for compactness, convenience, economy and neatness. The *Jenny Lind* is justly celebrated as the Range; it is calculated for fire-places of every size and with the smallest quantity of Coal that will ignite, one may cook a meal, or boil, or for a regimen, so easily are the parts of this range adjusted to their several uses. Faults have been found in each and all the Ranges in use, the *Jenny Lind* excepted; so well known are the merits embraced in this unique design, that it will in all probability, shortly be the only saleable article in the market. With those who have tested its worth, it stands A 1, and those who have for years suffered the inconvenience and annoyance of having their Bread baked to a crisp on one side with an equal portion of dough on the other, (as it often comes out of the "improved" Ranges and Stoves heretofore sold) will do well to call at No. 171 Thames street and order one of the beautiful Ranges manufactured by the subscriber, who pledges himself to give satisfaction to all who favor him with their Commission.

WILLIAM H. BLISS,
NEWPORT, R. I.

Jan. 1, 1852.—tf.

Roger Williams Stove.



This superior COOKING STOVE is not surpassed, if equalled, by any Stove now in the market. It has the largest oven of any stove of the same size, and as it is fitted to burn either

wood or coal it possesses great advantages over all competitors. This Stove is warranted to give satisfaction in every way, and if not found to be work after a trial of two weeks, it may be returned.

Constantly on hand, a good assortment of TIN WARE, and a general assortment of articles usually found at such an establishment. Every article of *Tin* or *Sheet Iron* work made at short notice, and jobbing and bending attending to with particularity. A share of patronage solicited.

Jan. 31. R. F. WILLIAMS, 75 Thames St.

CAUTION.

COMPLAINTS having reached the proprietor of *Burnett's Cod Liver Oil*, that his bottles and labels have been imitated and an inferior oil, palmed upon purchasers as his.

He would respectfully caution the public against such imitations, and request them to observe that in future the Cod Liver Oil prepared by him will bear upon the label of each bottle, the written signature of

JOSEPH BURNETT.

P. S. As success in the use of this valuable remedy depends upon its purity and quality, purchasers are requested to procure it only from dealers whose character and reputation will be a guard against imposition.

Boston, Feb. 7, 1852.—Sw.

Notice to All!

THE SUBSCRIBERS intending to close up their business by the middle of June, hereby notify all their customers, that their bills are ready for settlement, and all those having demands to present them.

They have a large supply of the best FAMLY GROCERIES on hand, which they will sell at extremely low prices for cash. Purchasers, who wish for good bargains, will do well to call and examine our stock before purchasing.

Work by Steam.

THE SUBSCRIBER, having enlarged his shop and applied Steam power to his Machinery, is now prepared to execute all orders in his line. Sashes, glazed and unglazed. Blinds, painted and unpainted, constantly on hand. Also, Doors of various sizes.

In thus announcing the fitting up of his Manufactory, he returns thanks to his customers, throughout the State, for their liberal patronage bestowed on him for the last few years.

Jan. 1.—tf.

SIMON MOFFIT.

ERNEST GOFFE.

MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN EVERY KIND OF

Cabinet Furniture,

LINED AT SHORT NOTICE, with Soap Stone, or Fire-brick, at the Stove Depot, Thames street, by

WM. H. BLISS.

Newport, Jan. 1.

COAL! COAL!

CUMBERLAND COAL, for family use—to burn in open Grates; also, for Blacksmith's use. For sale by

C. DEVENS, Jr.

Oct. 15, 1850.—tf.

WILLIAM H. BLISS.

NEWPORT, R. I.

Jan. 1, 1852.—tf.

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